

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 1 to 4 June 2004

**Question: Bud 48**

**Topic: Confirmation of Forward Estimates for Baby Bonus**

**Hansard Page: E82**

Senator Collins asked:

We will persist with your understanding, then, at this point. How long did it take for Treasury to confirm the forward estimates of the baby bonus provided to the Treasurer on 31 March?

**Mr Tilley**—I cannot recall the exact timing of what advice we would have provided. But, if it helps, my understanding is that it is not the situation that we did a re-costing at that point.

...

**Senator JACINTA COLLINS**—What date was the note signed by Mr Gallagher provided to the Treasurer's office? On that day?

**Mr Tilley**—I do not recall that, but I think that that minute was actually tabled in the parliament, so that would be a matter of public record. March 31 is the date on this note, which I assume is the minute that was tabled by the Treasurer in the parliament.

**Senator JACINTA COLLINS**—Yes, but was the briefing note provided to the Treasurer early in the day or late in the day?

...

**Mr Tilley**—I do not know what time of the day the minute was provided.

**Senator JACINTA COLLINS**—You will take that on notice and consult Mr Gallagher for me, then?

**Mr Tilley**—I will take that on notice.

**Senator JACINTA COLLINS**—Can you table a copy of the note?

**Mr Tilley**—What I have got here is something which is half-photocopied onto a page with some other material, but my recollection is that the Treasurer has already tabled this note.

**Senator JACINTA COLLINS**—The document you are referring to?

**Mr Tilley**—Yes.

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**Senator JACINTA COLLINS**—Was what was provided to the Treasurer an update in response to a request from the Treasurer, or was it Treasury simply showing its initiative?

**Mr Tilley**—I do not recall the exact circumstances in which we provided that advice.

**Senator JACINTA COLLINS**—So you will consult Mr Gallagher again?

**Mr Tilley**—I will take that on notice.

Answer:

This information was sought by the Treasurer's Office before lunch time on 31 March 2004 and provided before lunch time on 31 March 2004.

The estimate was revised at the 2003-04 MYEFO.